

NEWS

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HIGHLIGHTS OF ATLANTA, GA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JANUARY 2001

Workers in the Atlanta metropolitan area averaged \$18.07 per hour during January 2001, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin reported that white-collar workers averaged \$22.09 per hour and accounted for 55 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$14.13 per hour and represented 30 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$10.81 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 337 firms representing 905,300 workers in the Atlanta metropolitan area, which includes Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton Counties in Georgia. Eighty-one percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 110 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, pharmacists averaged \$34.12 per hour; construction inspectors, \$16.90; and receptionists, \$10.49. Blue-collar occupations included electricians earning \$18.31 per hour, mixing and blending machine operators at \$13.74, and production helpers at \$10.32. In the service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$16.05 per hour; janitors and cleaners, \$9.65; and nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, \$8.79.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Atlanta area averaged \$18.64 per hour and part-timers earned \$9.25. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$16.69 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$13.43. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$14.98 per hour, while those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$20.44.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an

occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgement, supervision received, and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Atlanta, GA National Compensation Survey January 2001 (Bulletin 3110-02). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Atlanta Information Office by calling 404-331-3415. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/comhome.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Atlanta by dialing 404-331-3403 and requesting document 9430.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Atlanta Information Office at 404-331-3415 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Atlanta, GA, January 2001

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$18.07	2.8	\$17.78	3.3	\$19.37	3.2
All excluding sales	18.21	2.8	17.92	3.5	19.38	3.2
White collar	22.09	3.0	22.14	3.8	21.91	3.8
White collar excluding sales	23.08	3.1	23.48	3.9	21.93	3.8
Professional specialty and technical	29.08	4.6	31.20	6.5	25.44	3.0
Professional specialty	29.56	4.0	32.03	6.1	26.58	3.1
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	30.40	6.0	30.76	6.4	—	—
Electrical and electronic engineers	33.32	3.9	33.32	3.9	—	—
Industrial engineers	27.32	11.8	27.40	13.0	—	—
Engineers, n.e.c.	37.58	2.0	37.58	2.0	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	29.97	5.7	31.22	3.7	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	29.75	6.6	31.32	4.1	—	—
Operations and systems researchers and analysts	29.20	8.0	29.20	8.0	—	—
Natural scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related	27.15	12.2	28.34	13.8	20.66	5.4
Registered nurses	21.80	1.9	22.02	1.9	20.56	6.1
Pharmacists	34.12	2.5	34.12	2.5	—	—
Teachers, college and university	36.06	22.5	33.71	16.0	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	28.34	2.0	23.96	7.4	28.53	2.0
Prekindergarten and kindergarten	27.48	6.3	—	—	—	—
Elementary school teachers	27.71	2.4	25.09	8.8	27.79	2.5
Secondary school teachers	28.54	3.0	—	—	28.50	3.1
Teachers, special education	31.85	4.9	—	—	—	—
Teachers, n.e.c.	26.81	2.7	—	—	27.47	2.4
Vocational and educational counselors	33.87	4.8	—	—	34.55	4.6
Librarians, archivists, and curators	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	17.95	10.5	—	—	18.14	10.5
Social workers	18.29	10.7	—	—	18.29	10.7
Lawyers and judges	55.96	4.5	56.84	3.8	—	—
Lawyers	55.96	4.5	56.84	3.8	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	29.91	10.1	30.21	10.2	—	—
Professional, n.e.c.	34.73	4.3	34.73	4.3	—	—
Technical	27.91	12.7	29.87	13.9	17.42	8.2
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	13.71	10.9	12.90	9.7	—	—
Radiological technicians	19.67	3.9	19.67	3.9	—	—
Licensed practical nurses	13.57	1.9	13.74	2.5	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	15.11	5.7	15.35	9.6	—	—
Electrical and electronic technicians	20.67	8.5	21.49	8.4	—	—
Computer programmers	27.25	9.3	29.65	10.1	—	—
Technical and related, n.e.c.	17.40	8.5	17.40	8.5	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.97	4.3	30.69	4.3	27.14	13.8
Executives, administrators, and managers	33.85	4.5	33.20	3.8	36.84	16.7
Administrators and officials, public administration	17.54	4.1	—	—	17.54	4.1
Financial managers	32.96	6.5	31.18	5.0	—	—
Personnel and labor relations managers	24.78	10.2	24.78	10.2	—	—
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	34.28	10.7	34.28	10.7	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields	43.06	16.7	—	—	48.69	19.0
Managers, medicine and health	30.57	4.0	31.29	3.9	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	38.14	4.7	38.14	4.7	—	—
Management related	25.04	7.1	27.27	8.0	17.76	10.7
Accountants and auditors	19.68	11.0	22.38	4.0	—	—
Other financial officers	21.50	4.5	21.50	4.5	—	—
Management analysts	28.99	10.3	28.99	10.3	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	19.95	12.1	24.10	6.6	—	—
Construction inspectors	16.90	2.8	—	—	16.90	2.8
Management related, n.e.c.	26.88	9.0	28.73	9.4	—	—
Sales	16.54	11.1	16.54	11.1	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Atlanta, GA, January 2001 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
White collar —Continued						
Sales —Continued						
Supervisors, sales	\$23.02	13.5	\$23.02	13.5	—	—
Sales, other business services	20.63	9.0	20.63	9.0	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	9.30	5.2	9.30	5.2	—	—
Cashiers	8.02	3.9	8.01	3.9	—	—
Sales support, n.e.c.	12.31	11.0	12.31	11.0	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.12	2.4	14.47	2.8	\$12.55	2.6
Supervisors, general office	22.50	4.4	22.70	4.3	—	—
Secretaries	16.45	8.5	17.83	9.5	13.18	4.2
Receptionists	10.49	3.6	10.40	3.7	—	—
Order clerks	14.28	4.6	14.28	4.6	—	—
Personnel clerks, except payroll and timekeeping	14.79	4.4	—	—	—	—
Records clerks, n.e.c.	13.23	9.5	14.43	11.9	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	12.42	3.4	12.37	4.6	12.46	4.9
Mail clerks, except postal service	11.15	5.3	11.15	5.3	—	—
Dispatchers	14.31	5.2	—	—	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	11.73	4.4	12.02	4.2	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks	16.17	6.3	16.69	6.1	—	—
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	16.19	7.4	16.81	9.1	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	14.71	11.6	14.71	11.6	—	—
Bill and account collectors	13.80	3.3	13.87	3.4	—	—
General office clerks	12.70	4.3	12.74	4.9	12.46	7.2
Data entry keyers	12.57	8.2	12.71	9.2	—	—
Teachers' aides	10.94	6.7	—	—	10.94	6.8
Administrative support, n.e.c.	16.44	11.9	16.85	12.0	—	—
Blue collar	14.13	2.5	14.09	2.7	14.69	4.7
Precision production, craft, and repair	17.84	3.2	17.89	3.4	17.17	7.3
Supervisors, mechanics and repairers	23.24	5.9	22.64	6.3	—	—
Automobile mechanics	17.31	8.1	—	—	—	—
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	16.01	6.4	15.95	7.6	—	—
Aircraft mechanics, except engine	25.57	5.5	25.57	5.5	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers	16.20	5.7	16.30	5.8	—	—
Electronic repairers, communications and industrial equipment	19.18	10.7	19.36	11.7	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	16.82	7.0	17.15	7.3	—	—
Supervisors, construction trades, n.e.c.	20.80	11.1	21.44	13.4	—	—
Electricians	18.31	4.5	—	—	—	—
Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters	18.21	17.0	18.21	17.0	—	—
Supervisors, production	21.92	7.8	21.92	7.8	—	—
Machinists	19.03	9.0	19.03	9.0	—	—
Butchers and meat cutters	9.20	12.0	9.20	12.0	—	—
Inspectors, testers, and graders	17.16	13.7	17.08	15.0	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	13.89	5.4	13.90	5.4	—	—
Printing press operators	17.72	13.9	17.72	13.9	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators	13.43	18.2	13.43	18.2	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators	12.55	3.0	12.55	3.0	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators	13.74	4.0	13.74	4.0	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	12.43	5.6	12.43	5.6	—	—
Assemblers	15.72	10.8	15.72	10.8	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	11.64	5.5	11.64	5.5	—	—
Transportation and material moving	13.88	4.2	13.88	4.8	13.85	3.0
Truck drivers	15.11	4.8	15.21	4.9	—	—
Bus drivers	13.02	7.4	—	—	14.19	3.5
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	13.12	5.1	13.12	5.1	—	—
Miscellaneous material moving equipment operators, n.e.c.	14.08	7.4	14.08	7.4	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Atlanta, GA, January 2001 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Blue collar —Continued						
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	\$10.69	3.8	\$10.69	3.9	\$10.65	7.1
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	9.90	8.6	8.60	6.5	—	—
Supervisors, handlers, equipment cleaners, and laborers, n.e.c.	20.94	2.7	—	—	—	—
Production helpers	10.32	4.3	10.32	4.3	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	10.32	8.6	10.32	8.6	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers	10.30	15.8	10.30	15.8	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	14.21	7.0	14.21	7.0	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	8.77	5.5	8.77	5.5	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	8.40	4.6	8.36	4.9	—	—
Service	10.81	4.9	9.53	6.1	13.92	3.8
Protective service	12.26	11.1	8.76	6.6	15.99	4.8
Supervisors, police and detectives	23.88	15.2	—	—	23.88	15.2
Firefighting	14.34	7.0	—	—	13.76	6.0
Police and detectives, public service	16.05	5.7	—	—	16.05	5.7
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers	15.01	4.0	—	—	15.01	4.0
Correctional institution officers	13.32	5.0	—	—	13.32	5.0
Guards and police, except public service	8.59	4.6	8.46	3.9	—	—
Food service	7.37	6.4	7.05	6.7	10.86	13.5
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	5.20	11.1	5.20	11.1	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	4.27	16.6	4.27	16.6	—	—
Waiters'/Waitresses' assistants	6.59	6.8	6.59	6.8	—	—
Other food service	9.33	4.5	9.04	4.5	10.86	13.5
Supervisors, food preparation and service	11.55	6.6	11.48	7.3	—	—
Cooks	9.96	7.4	9.96	7.4	—	—
Food counter, fountain, and related	7.43	2.9	—	—	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	8.54	4.3	8.58	4.3	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	8.98	10.6	7.77	5.5	12.04	17.8
Health service	9.53	3.7	9.11	3.2	11.84	7.3
Health aides, except nursing	11.86	8.3	11.15	14.3	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	8.79	2.3	8.77	2.4	—	—
Cleaning and building service	9.48	4.0	9.20	5.0	10.30	5.7
Maids and housemen	7.63	2.2	7.63	2.2	—	—
Janitors and cleaners	9.65	5.1	9.31	7.0	10.30	5.7
Personal service	18.93	16.6	23.52	19.2	10.71	8.5
Early childhood teachers' assistants	11.80	4.2	—	—	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Atlanta, GA, January 2001

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$18.64	\$9.25	\$20.87	\$17.80	\$17.85	\$21.65
All excluding sales	18.67	9.53	21.46	17.89	18.15	19.57
White collar	22.69	10.38	37.37	21.58	21.76	26.93
White-collar excluding sales	23.39	12.56	49.37	22.39	22.87	30.29
Professional specialty and technical	29.39	17.84	—	27.19	28.62	—
Professional specialty	29.75	21.22	—	29.58	28.91	—
Technical	28.48	12.77	—	20.80	27.89	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.97	—	—	29.99	29.26	47.59
Sales	18.17	8.30	12.80	16.82	13.49	24.92
Administrative support, including clerical	14.32	9.59	17.63	13.98	14.15	13.35
Blue collar	14.47	8.86	16.69	13.43	14.21	12.96
Precision production, craft, and repair	17.84	—	19.97	17.09	17.72	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	13.89	—	17.24	12.64	14.42	—
Transportation and material moving	13.92	13.36	16.72	13.42	13.37	16.40
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	11.30	7.36	10.99	10.62	10.81	—
Service	11.17	7.70	15.17	10.63	10.80	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	2.8	4.3	10.4	2.9	2.7	14.4
All excluding sales	2.8	4.8	10.7	2.9	2.8	20.1
White collar	3.1	5.1	26.1	2.9	3.0	15.5
White-collar excluding sales	3.1	6.0	27.7	2.8	3.0	32.2
Professional specialty and technical	4.6	7.4	—	3.6	4.4	—
Professional specialty	4.1	6.5	—	4.0	3.5	—
Technical	12.8	7.7	—	6.0	12.8	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.3	—	—	4.3	3.9	24.0
Sales	11.6	5.6	17.1	11.7	7.2	16.2
Administrative support, including clerical	2.4	2.6	4.5	2.5	2.4	12.1
Blue collar	2.6	6.9	4.6	2.8	2.5	13.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.2	—	3.9	4.0	3.3	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.4	—	7.6	6.4	5.0	—
Transportation and material moving	4.3	6.7	7.2	4.5	4.2	9.1
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.0	5.7	8.0	4.3	3.9	—
Service	5.4	10.6	7.1	5.1	5.0	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Atlanta, GA, January 2001

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$17.78	\$14.98	\$18.46	\$16.71	\$20.44
All excluding sales	17.92	15.07	18.59	16.61	20.61
White collar	22.14	18.59	22.95	21.43	24.53
White-collar excluding sales	23.48	19.99	24.21	22.98	25.22
Professional specialty and technical	31.20	33.39	30.96	28.77	32.65
Professional specialty	32.03	50.77	30.64	33.14	28.71
Technical	29.87	19.78	31.52	21.17	39.38
Executive, administrative, and managerial	30.69	27.76	31.18	30.63	31.63
Sales	16.54	14.36	17.23	17.32	16.93
Administrative support, including clerical	14.47	13.91	14.65	14.30	14.95
Blue collar	14.09	14.01	14.11	12.55	16.15
Precision production, craft, and repair	17.89	17.39	18.01	15.88	20.77
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	13.90	15.40	13.74	12.18	15.39
Transportation and material moving	13.88	13.68	13.95	12.93	15.28
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.69	9.93	10.84	9.74	12.57
Service	9.53	7.19	10.53	8.73	12.49
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	3.3	6.5	3.8	5.6	5.4
All excluding sales	3.5	6.9	3.9	5.7	5.5
White collar	3.8	8.8	4.0	6.5	5.1
White-collar excluding sales	3.9	10.4	4.0	6.3	5.3
Professional specialty and technical	6.5	24.4	6.6	9.6	9.3
Professional specialty	6.1	31.4	5.7	11.0	3.4
Technical	13.9	7.8	15.2	12.7	21.3
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.3	9.5	4.8	9.1	4.6
Sales	11.1	15.1	13.6	17.4	8.3
Administrative support, including clerical	2.8	6.3	3.1	5.5	3.4
Blue collar	2.7	5.0	3.1	3.6	4.7
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.4	6.9	3.9	4.1	5.0
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.4	5.2	5.9	6.9	9.4
Transportation and material moving	4.8	5.8	6.1	6.6	10.2
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3.9	9.9	4.3	4.8	5.9
Service	6.1	7.6	8.6	4.2	19.7

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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